

Adults Summer Reading Suggestions

1. **After the Holidays** [DB027297](#)
 - A deceptively simple and ironic tale of the Weiss family, who emigrate from Europe to Jewish Palestine before World War I. Although they take up residence in a rural settlement and buy orange groves, the family's life is far from pastoral: murder, rape, insanity, sensuality, and somnambulism abound.
2. **Among Flowers: A Walk in the Himalaya** [DB065382](#)
 - Caribbean-born novelist recounts her journey to eastern Nepal to gather seeds for use in her personal garden in Vermont. Chronicles her month-long trek through remote, mountainous terrain where, while searching for specimens, she and three botanist friends endured daily deprivations, altitude sickness, leeches, and encounters with violent Maoist guerillas.
3. **The Discovery of India** [DB064641](#)
 - History of Indian culture from its ancient beginnings through the British colonial period. Discusses philosophy, science, art, and personalities including the Buddha and Mahatma Gandhi. Analyses religious texts. Written by Nehru (1889-1964), India's first prime minister, while he was imprisoned at Ahmadnagar Fort for six months in 1944.
4. **Dinosaurs of the Flaming Cliffs** [DB044068](#)
 - A paleontologist's account of a grueling 1993 field expedition to the Gobi Desert of Mongolia, which resulted in one of the most extensive dinosaur fossil discoveries in history. Describes the specimens that were found and discusses their meaning and scientific importance.
5. **Consequence: A Memoir** [DB084618](#)
 - Memoir of a man who served in the Army, contemplated becoming a minister, and then worked for a defense contractor as an interrogator in Iraq, principally in Baghdad, Fallujah, and Abu Ghraib. Discusses the psychological and physiological impact of his work as well as what influenced him.
6. **The Hundred-Year Marathon: China's Secret Strategy to Replace America as the Global Superpower** [DB081375](#)
 - Using interviews with Chinese defectors and declassified national security documents, Pillsbury postulates a strategy on China's part to supplant the United States as the world's dominant power by 2049. The author also discusses how the American government has helped to further this cause, both purposefully and unwittingly.
7. **An Unnecessary Woman** [DB078325](#)
 - Beirut. Seventy-two-year-old Aaliya spends her days translating books from English and French into Arabic for her private amusement. Divorced, childless, and godless in the eyes of society, she is shunned. She reflects on the literature that has touched her life and helped her survive the Lebanese Civil War.
8. **The Day Nothing Happened** [DB028655](#)
 - Stories based on the author's own experiences in Sarawak, Malaysia. The central character is Dan Collins, an American engineer working amid a chaotic collection of Muslim Malays, Chinese villagers, British soldiers and colonialists, and American volunteers. His interacting with the local culture is both poignant and comic. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex.
9. **Korea: A Walk Through the Land of Miracles** [DB028417](#)
 - The English author, a resident of Hong Kong, traveled through the Republic of Korea (South Korea) on foot to write this informal portrait. Along the way he befriended a variety of people who helped shape his impressions: honeymooners, abalone divers, corporate executives, Buddhist nuns, and American servicemen. Humorous observations on the culture, people, language, politics.
10. **In Order to Live: A North Korean Girl's Journey to Freedom** [DB082685](#)
 - An autobiographical recounting of life in the repressive North Korean society in which the author was raised, and her subsequent escape. She describes her family, the culture of leader worship, her father's imprisonment and torture, and how, even after her escape, she was sold into sexual slavery in China.